

Message Text

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P 231839Z OCT 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (CLARK, DICK), AF

SUBJECT: CODEL CLARK

REF.: STATE 262827

1. SENATOR SENDS FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO AMBASSADOR:

QUOTE. I HAVE A VERY GOOD EVENING IN NEW YORK
WITH THE COMMISSIONER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, MR. GARBA.
WE DISCUSSED MY COMING TO NIGERIA AT THAT TIME, AND I
WOULD NOT MISS IT. UNFORTUNATELY, PLANE CONNECTIONS MAKE
IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO BE IN NIGERIA AS LONG AS I WOULD
HAVE LIKED.

JEAN HERSKOVITZ RECOMMENDS THAT I LEAVE IT TO THE NIGERIAN
GOVERNMENT TO ARRANGE MY SCHEDULE. HOWEVER, I WOULD
GREATLY APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD FOLLOW UP ON IT WITH
THE GOVERNMENT AND GIVE ME SOME IDEA WHAT I WILL BE
DOING BEFORE I LEAVE.

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THANKS SO MUCH FOR YOUR COMMUNICATION. UNQUOTE.

2. IN ADDITION, EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO DELIVER ASAP TO GENERAL OBASANJO COPY OF LETTER SENT HIM BY SENATOR CLARK THROUGH THE NIGERIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. TEXT OF LETTER AS FOLLOWS:

3. QUOTE. DEAR GENERAL OBASANJO:

AS CHAIRMAN OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS, I WILL BE VISITING, ALONG WITH TWO STAFF MEMBERS, SEVERAL AFRICAN NATIONS ON A FACT-FINDING MISSION IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER OF THIS YEAR. BARRING ANY UNEXPECTED COMPLICATIONS, I PLAN TO BE IN NIGERIA ON DECEMBER 8-10, AND WOULD HOPE IN THE COURSE OF MY VISIT TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH YOU TO DISCUSS ISSUES OF MUTUAL CONCERN.

DURING THE RECENT GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION IN NEW YORK, I SPOKE WITH YOUR FOREIGN MINISTER AND ADVISED HIM OF MY PLANS.

I AM TRANSMITTING THIS LETTER THROUGH YOUR EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON IN THE HOPE THAT IT WILL REACH YOU AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE. AS A COURTESY, I WILL THEN INFORM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE OF MY INTENT TO TRAVEL TO NIGERIA, AND THE US EMBASSY IN LAGOS WILL BE SIMILARLY APPRISED OF MY TRAVEL SCHEDULE AND WILL COORDINATE WITH YOUR GOVERNMENT. SHOULD THERE BE ANY OFFICIALS IN YOUR GOVERNMENT THAT YOU MIGHT DEEM ADVISABLE THAT I TALK TO WHILE IN NIGERIA, PLEASE LET ME KNOW THROUGH YOUR EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON AND THE US EMBASSY. MRS. MARIANNE SPIEGEL OF MY WASHINGTON STAFF IS FAMILIAR WITH MY SCHEDULE AND WILL BE SERVING AS MY POINT OF CONTACT.

I LOOK FORWARD TO THE OPPORTUNITY OF MEETING WITH YOU.

SINCERELY, DICK CLARK.

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HIS EXCELLENCY, LT. GENERAL OLUSEGUN OBASANJO, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA. UNQUOTE. ROBINSON

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